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This is a summary of Indiana hunting and trapping regulations. It is designed as a service to sportsmen and women and is not intended to be a complete digest of all hunting and trapping regulations. Most regulations are subject to change by administrative rule. Contact the Division of Fish and Wildlife before reproducing any part of this booklet.



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Summary of General License Regulations

- A resident is a person whose true fixed and permanent home and principal residence has been in Indiana for 60 consecutive days prior to purchasing a license or permit and who does not claim residency for hunting, trapping or fishing in another state or country, other than the U.S. All others are non-residents.
- You must carry your license (and applicable state and federal stamps and HIP number) with you while hunting or fishing and produce them on the request of any conservation officer or other authorized law enforcement officer.
- Should you lose your resident license, contact DNR Customer Service at (317) 233-4976.
- Any applicable game bird, waterfowl, or trout/salmon stamp is not valid until it is signed across the face of the stamp. Stamps do not need to be affixed to a license.
- Licenses issued by the DNR may be revoked at the discretion of a court upon conviction of fish and wildlife law violations, or at the discretion of the department for non-compliance with conditions under which licenses are issued.
- Equipment such as guns and vehicles used in violation of fish and wildlife laws may be seized for evidence, and upon conviction, confiscated at the discretion of the court.

Lifetime Licenses

Avid Indiana resident hunters and anglers may purchase lifetime hunting and fishing licenses. The licenses are available at the DNR Indianapolis office.

Discounts apply for lifetime license buyers over 50 years old. For an application and information, write to DNR Customer Service Center, 402 W. Washington St., Room W160, Indianapolis, IN 46204, or call (317) 233-4976.

Purchasing a License

Online . . .

To purchase resident and non-resident licenses online – 24 hours a day, seven days a week, go to www.wildlife.IN.gov.

In Person . . .

Most licenses, are available from independent agents, county clerks and most Department of Natural Resources properties throughout the state.

Non-resident licenses are available at the state's Customer Service Center in Indianapolis and at most DNR properties. Some independent agents carry non-resident licenses.

The DNR Customer Service Center is in the Indiana Government Center South, Room W160, 402 W. Washington St., Indianapolis. Service Center hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

By Mail . . .

To purchase licenses by mail, send your order with the following information:

- Name, date of birth and Social Security number (*Hunting license: include a copy of your hunter education certificate or card if born after 1986.*)
- Complete address, city, state, zip and phone number
- Height, weight, color of hair and color of eyes
- Specify the licenses including the season (*i.e. deer for muzzleloader*)

Send check (payable to DNR), money order or Visa or Master Card number, including expiration date, for licenses (see prices below) to:

Licenses
DNR Customer Service Center
402 W. Washington St., Rm. W160
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Please allow 2-3 weeks for delivery. For more information, call the Indiana DNR Customer Service Center at (317) 233-4976. **All licenses issued by the DNR are non-transferable and non-refundable.**

Resident Licenses*

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| Fishing | \$14.25 |
| One-day Fishing | \$7.00 |
| (includes trout/salmon fishing) | |
| Hunting | \$14.25 |
| Hunting and Fishing | \$20.75 |
| Trapping | \$14.00 |
| Deer Hunting | \$24.00 |
| Youth Consolidated Hunting | \$7.00 |
| Turkey Hunting | \$23.00 |
| Trout/Salmon Stamp | \$9.25 |
| Waterfowl Stamp | \$6.75 |
| Game Bird Habitat Stamp | \$6.75 |
| Limited Edition Licenses | \$50.00 |
| DAV License | \$2.75 |

Non-resident Licenses

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Annual Fishing | \$24.75 |
| One-day Fishing | \$7.00 |
| (includes trout/salmon fishing) | |
| Seven-day Fishing | \$12.75 |
| Annual Hunting | \$60.75 |
| Five-day Hunting | \$25.75 |
| Annual Trapping | \$117.75 |
| Deer Hunting | \$120.75 |
| Turkey Hunting | \$114.75 |
| Trout/Salmon Stamp | \$9.25 |
| Waterfowl Stamp | \$6.75 |
| Game Bird Habitat Stamp | \$6.75 |
| Shooting Preserve | \$8.75 |

Resident Lifetime Licenses

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Basic Fishing | \$285.00 |
| Equivalent to annual resident fishing license. Does not include trout/salmon stamp. | |
| Basic Hunting | \$285.00 |
| Equivalent to annual resident hunting license. Does not include stamps, deer or turkey licenses. | |
| Comprehensive Fishing | \$427.50 |
| Includes the basic fishing license plus trout/salmon stamp. | |
| Comprehensive Hunting | \$855.00 |
| Includes all required hunting licenses and stamps. Does not include trapping license or federal migratory bird hunting stamp. | |
| Comprehensive Hunting and Fishing | \$1154.25 |
| Includes all licenses and stamps covered by Comprehensive Fishing and Comprehensive Hunting licenses. | |
| Trapping | \$280.00 |
| Equivalent to current annual resident trapping license. | |

2003 licenses and stamps are valid from Jan. 1, 2003 through Feb. 29, 2004.

2003 trapping licenses are valid through Mar. 31, 2004.

*See resident description located at the top of this page.

License Exemptions

You must have and carry a valid license and applicable state stamps to hunt any wild animal, with exceptions as follows:

- Residents or non-residents participating in a field trial sanctioned by the DNR director.
- Landowners, or lessees of farmland who farm that land and are residents of Indiana, their spouses and children living with them, while hunting, fishing or trapping on the land they own or lease.
- Residents of Indiana engaged in full-time military service and who are carrying their leave orders and a valid Indiana driver's license or Indiana voter registration card.
- Non-resident military personnel on active duty and stationed within Indiana may hunt or fish with a resident license.
- An individual who is less than 13 years of age; does not possess a bow or firearm; and is accompanied by an individual who is at least 18 years of age and holds a valid license.

Non-resident landowner exemptions

Some non-resident Indiana landowners are exempt from Indiana hunting, fishing and trapping license requirements.

Indiana law exempts a non-resident landowner according to the exemption that the non-resident's state provides for Indiana residents. The non-resident must possess proof of ownership of the farmland while hunting (i.e. tax receipt).

Owners of Indiana farmland, their spouses and children who live with them are exempt from license requirements while hunting or trapping on their land if they are residents of one of the following states and meet the additional listed conditions:

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Iowa (small game only) | Vermont |
| North Carolina | Virginia |
| Ohio | Wisconsin (small game only) |

Landowners who are residents from states not listed must have and carry a valid non-resident license to hunt any wild animal. All non-resident landowners are required to have a valid non-resident license when hunting on land other than their own.

The law does not exempt non-residents who lease land in Indiana. Non-resident lessees are still required to purchase non-resident hunting and trapping licenses.

Non-resident Turkey Licenses

Non-resident hunters wishing to hunt turkeys in Indiana must purchase a non-resident turkey license and a gamebird habitat stamp. In addition, if an Indiana resident is required to purchase another license in order to hunt turkeys in a non-resident's state, the non-resident must purchase an annual non-resident hunting license in order to hunt turkeys in Indiana.

Here are the license requirements for residents of surrounding states:

- Illinois, Kentucky and Ohio residents must purchase an annual non-resident hunting license, a non-resident turkey license and a gamebird habitat stamp.
- Wisconsin and Michigan residents must purchase a non-resident turkey license and a gamebird habitat stamp.

Permits for Persons with Disabilities

The DNR issues permits to individuals with a disability that prevents them from taking wildlife under regular hunting regulations. The DNR may issue a special permit to an individual with a physical impairment resulting from an injury or disease, excluding impairment which is attributable to the normal aging process.

Special permits allow those who cannot walk or have serious walking limitations to hunt from a vehicle. On state and federal lands, permit holders must obtain permission in advance from a property manager to gain vehicle access to lands or roads that are otherwise closed to vehicular traffic. Those who have a disability that prevents them from using a regular bow may be issued a permit to use a crossbow.

To apply for a hunter with a disability hunting permit, you must complete an application form, and a physician must complete a statement of disability form.

Rules governing the use of hunter with a disability permits and application forms are available from the Division of Fish and Wildlife, 402 W. Washington St., Room W273, Indianapolis, IN 46204; (317) 232-4080. To be considered for fall hunting seasons, applications must be received no later than August 1, 2003.

Youth Consolidated Hunting License

The youth consolidated hunting license, for youth 17 and younger, covers more than an annual resident hunting license. The license also covers the turkey license, game bird habitat stamp, Indiana migratory waterfowl stamp and all deer licenses. A HIP validation number is required to hunt migratory birds. See page 7 for more information on HIP. Federal migratory bird stamps are not covered by the youth license (federal migratory bird stamps are not required for youths under 16 years old).

Youth hunting licenses are valid for that license year, even if the individual turns 18 during that year. In order to purchase a hunting license, anyone born after 1986 must successfully complete a hunter education class offered by the DNR. See page 5 for information on Indiana hunter education classes. Non-resident youths must purchase a non-resident license. However, a non-resident under 18 years of age, who has a parent, grandparent or legal guardian who is a resident of Indiana, may purchase a resident license to hunt or trap in Indiana.

Harassment of Hunters, Trappers and Anglers

It is illegal to intentionally interfere with the legal taking of a game animal by another person on public land, or on private land without permission of the landowner.

GET YOUR HUNTING AND TRAPPING LICENSES ONLINE:

www.wildlife.IN.gov

2003-2004 Indiana Hunting Seasons

Furbearers

Hunting Dates

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Red and Gray Fox, Coyote .. | Oct. 15, 2003-Feb. 28, 2004 |
| Raccoon and Opossum | Nov. 8, 2003-Jan. 31, 2004 |
| Dog Running | Feb. 15, 2003-Oct. 14, 2003 |
| <i>(Raccoon, Opossum)</i> | |

Woodland Game

Hunting Dates

Limit

| | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Wild Turkey | April 21, 2004-May 9, 2004 | 1 per season |
| <i>(bearded or male turkey)</i> | | |
| Squirrel <i>(fluorescent orange required Nov. 7-Jan. 31)</i> | | |
| North of U.S. 40 | Aug. 15, 2003-Dec. 31, 2003 | 5 per day |
| South of U.S. 40 | Aug. 15, 2003-Jan. 31, 2004 | 5 per day |
| Ruffed Grouse | Oct. 1, 2003-Dec. 31, 2003 | 2 per day |
| Deer <i>(fluorescent orange required Nov. 15-Nov. 30 and Dec. 6-Dec. 21)</i> | | |
| Early Archery | Oct. 1, 2003-Nov. 30, 2003 | *See page 14 |
| Firearms | Nov. 15, 2003-Nov. 30, 2003 | *See page 14 |
| Muzzleloader | Dec. 6, 2003-Dec. 21, 2003 | *See page 14 |
| Late Archery | Dec. 6, 2003-Jan. 4, 2004 | *See page 14 |

Upland Game

Hunting Dates

Limit

(fluorescent orange required for upland game hunting)

| | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Pheasant (cock only) | Nov. 7, 2003-Dec. 21, 2003 | 2 per day |
| Quail (North of SR 26) | Nov. 7, 2003-Dec. 21, 2003 | 5 per day |
| Quail (South of SR 26) | Nov. 7, 2003-Jan. 15, 2004 | 8 per day |
| Rabbit | Nov. 7, 2003-Jan. 31, 2004 | 5 per day |
| Rabbit* (see page 6) | Oct. 1, 2003-Jan. 31, 2004 | 5 per day |

* designated state areas

The possession limit on upland game and woodland game (except deer and turkey) is two times the daily bag limit

Miscellaneous

Hunting Dates

Limit

| | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------|
| Crow | July 1, 2003-Aug. 15, 2003 | No limit |
| | Dec. 13, 2003-March 1, 2004 | |
| Frog (bull and green only) .. | June 15, 2003-April 30, 2004 | 25 per day |

LEGAL HUNTING HOURS

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Turkey: | 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset (hours may be different on state owned property) |
| Deer: | 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset |
| Furbearer: | Hunting/Running: noon of first day to noon of last day |
| | Trapping: 8 a.m. of first day to noon of last day |

Firearms must be completely unloaded when entering the field before and/or exiting the field after legal shooting hours.

Bag and Possession Limits

It is illegal to possess, ship, carry or transport more than two times the daily bag limit of a wild animal after the beginning of the second day of the season established to take that animal. It is illegal to take more than the daily bag limit of a wild animal in a calendar day.

You must maintain possession of any wild animal taken while you are hunting or returning to your vehicle after hunting, unless the animal is properly tagged.

You cannot transport a wild animal for another person which is in excess of your bag limit unless the animal is tagged by either:

1. A properly notched tag issued by the DNR (deer and turkey).
2. If a DNR tag is not required, a tag signed by the person who killed the animal that includes the person's address, total number and species of wild animals taken, and the date the wild animals were taken.

When transporting pheasant, the head and head plumage of the bird must remain attached until processing.

Hunting from a Vehicle or Boat

Animals and birds may not be hunted from, by, or with the aid of any motor-driven conveyance (vehicle or boat) except:

- By authorized handicapped hunting permit.
- To check traps that are lawfully set and maintained.
- To hunt waterfowl from a motorboat if the boat is beached, resting at anchor, tied to a stationary object, or otherwise without motion except as provided by wind, water current or hand-operated oars or paddles.
- To hunt any animal (except furbearers) from a motorboat, provided the boat is not under power derived from the motor.

It is illegal to hunt furbearers from any boat. It is illegal to ride any off-road vehicle with a loaded firearm.

Deer-Vehicle Collisions

If a deer dies following a collision with a motor vehicle, a conservation officer, DNR property manager, assistant property manager or other law enforcement officer may issue a permit to an individual to possess the deer.

If a deer is found dead from another cause, a conservation officer or person designated by a conservation officer may issue a permit to possess the deer.

Do Not Trespass

It is illegal to hunt, trap or retrieve game on private land without the consent of the landowner or tenant. Always ask permission before entering private property.

Key Definitions

Game bird: Indiana game birds include ring-necked pheasant, bobwhite quail, ruffed grouse and wild turkey.

Furbearer: Indiana furbearing game animals include beaver, coyote, gray fox, long-tailed weasel, mink, muskrat, opossum, raccoon, red fox and skunk.

Antlered deer: A deer with at least one antler that is at least three inches long.

Antlerless deer: Any deer other than an antlered deer.

Bag limit: The quantity of individual wild animals that may be taken in any one day of the specified season for a specified wild animal or during the entire season.

Possession limit: Two times the daily bag limit or the bag limit for the entire season depending on the species.

Hunt: To take any wild animal except by trapping.

Take: To pursue, shoot, kill, trap, capture, collect, catch, possess or otherwise take or attempt to take.

Motor driven conveyance: An automobile, truck, tractor, combine, wagon, bus, off-road vehicle, ATV, recreational vehicle, motorcycle, moped, dune buggy, go-cart, motorboat, airplane, or other motorized conveyance capable of transporting an individual.

Baiting: Placing a food product in the field for consumption to attract wildlife to an area being hunted. Examples of baits include salt, mineral blocks, solid licks, grains, and liquids or powders spread on the ground for the purpose of being eaten by animals.

Hunter Education

In order to purchase a hunting license, anyone born after 1986 must successfully complete a hunter education class offered by the DNR. Hunters certified in another state or Canada can also present a card or certificate and purchase an Indiana hunting license.

The DNR hunter education program teaches hunter responsibility and ethics, wildlife conservation and management, firearms safety, wildlife identification, game care, survival and first aid. Hunter education is not just for kids and not just for hunters. The program is for all Hoosiers who enjoy the outdoors and have an interest in conservation. The course can also be an excellent refresher for veteran hunters.

The DNR offers hunter education courses in counties throughout the state. The program takes approximately 10 hours to complete. For information on classes in your area, contact the hunter education office closest to you or visit the class web site at www.IN.gov/dnr/lawenfor/hunt-edu.htm

Hunter Education North
P.O. Box 236
Otterbein, IN 47970
(765) 583-2817

Hunter Education South
P.O. Box 917
Jasper, IN 47547
(812) 482-3093

Wanton Waste

It is illegal to kill or cripple any wild animal without making a reasonable effort to retrieve the animal to include in your daily bag limit. It is illegal, however, to enter private property without permission to retrieve downed game. Before you hunt, make sure you have permission to track game on land adjoining your hunting area.

Selling of Wild Game

Protected or regulated wild animals, live, dead, or the meat therefrom, cannot be sold, traded or bartered. (Exceptions: lawfully taken furbearers, squirrel tails, deer hides, antlers, hooves, and cured feathers may be sold).

Indiana Firearms Regulations

No license is required to possess a rifle, shotgun or muzzle-loading firearm (including muzzleloading handguns). You must have a permit to carry and/or hunt with a handgun. Landowners may hunt on their own property without a handgun permit. It is illegal to carry a concealed handgun while hunting. It is illegal to carry a handgun while hunting turkey or while hunting deer outside of the season in which handguns are legal equipment for deer hunting.

You may apply for a handgun permit at your local county sheriff's office. You must be at least 18 years old to obtain a handgun permit. Non-residents using a handgun must have a permit issued by their home state. If their home state does not issue handgun permits, then they may not hunt with a handgun in Indiana.

For a complete listing of Indiana firearm regulations, see Indiana Code 35-47-2-1.

Shooting Across Roads or Water

It is illegal to hunt, shoot at or kill any animal or to shoot at any object from within, into, upon or across any public road.

It is illegal to shoot across a body of water except in the lawful pursuit of wildlife.

Silencers

It is illegal to have a silencer while hunting.

Magazine Plugs

When hunting for migratory game birds and waterfowl (i.e. doves, ducks, geese, woodcocks, etc.) it is illegal to use a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler which is incapable of removal without disassembling the gun.

There are no restrictions on magazine capacity for hunting of any other species.

Spotlighting

It is illegal to spotlight any wild animal from a vehicle while possessing any firearm, bow or crossbow.

Laser Sights

Laser sights are legal for all hunting.

DNR Property Rules

Hunting and trapping regulations may vary on some state properties. Please check with the property manager for up-to-date regulations before hunting or trapping on state areas.

Fluorescent Orange Requirements

To meet fluorescent orange (or "hunter orange") clothing requirements, you must wear as an outer garment exposed at all times one or more of the following articles that are solid fluorescent orange in color: a vest, coat, jacket, coveralls, hat or cap. Camouflage-patterned fluorescent orange garments do not satisfy the requirement. You must wear fluorescent orange if you are hunting:

- Deer*
- Pheasant
- Quail
- Woodcock
- Rabbit
- Ruffed grouse
- Squirrel (Nov. 7, 2003-Jan. 31, 2004)

* See deer hunting fluorescent orange requirements on page 12.

Small Game Hunting Rabbit

The cottontail rabbit season is from Nov. 7, 2003, to Jan. 31, 2004. Rabbits may be hunted during the extended season of Oct. 1, 2003, to Jan. 31, 2004, on Atterbury, Brush Creek, Crosley, Glendale, Hillenbrand, Jasper-Pulaski, Kingsbury, LaSalle, Minnehaha, Sugar Ridge, Pigeon River, Tri-County, Wilbur Wright, Willow Slough and Winamac Fish and Wildlife areas and Brookville, Hardy, Huntington, Mississinewa, Monroe, Patoka and Salamonie reservoirs.

You may not remove a rabbit from a hole, den or tree hollow with the aid of a ferret or other small animal or other means. You must meet fluorescent orange clothing requirements while hunting rabbits (see page 5).

It is illegal to hunt, take or possess swamp rabbits. Swamp rabbits are an endangered and protected species in Indiana found solely in Indiana's extreme southwest counties.

Squirrel

Gray and fox squirrels may be taken with any equipment and ammunition during squirrel hunting season. You must meet fluorescent orange clothing requirements while hunting squirrels from Nov. 7, 2003 through the end of the season.

It is legal to hunt squirrels from a boat that is not under power derived from a motor. Fluorescent orange clothing is not required while hunting squirrels from a boat. Shooting into or disturbing leaf nests or squirrel dens is illegal at all times.

It is illegal to hunt or possess flying squirrels. Flying squirrels are a protected species in Indiana.

Reptiles and Amphibians

All reptiles and amphibians native to Indiana are protected by law. The common snapping turtle, smooth softshell turtle and the spiny softshell turtle are game animals. An Indiana resident must have a valid hunting or fishing license to collect these turtles. All non-residents must have an annual non-resident hunting license. The season is unlimited. The daily bag limit is 25 game turtles. The possession limit is 50 game turtles. Turtle traps may be used, but these devices may not have an opening below the surface of the water. Turtles may not be sold.

The bull frog and green frog are game animals. Indiana residents must have a valid hunting or fishing license to collect these frogs. All non-residents must have an annual non-resident hunting license. The season is from June 15 through April 30. The daily bag limit is 25 game frogs. The possession limit is 50 game frogs.

Resident License Requirements for Indiana Hunting and Trapping Seasons

| Animal | Hunter Orange Required | License Required |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| SMALL GAME | | |
| Rabbit | entire season | Hunting License |
| Squirrel | Nov. 7 to end of season | Hunting License |
| Turtle | | Hunting or Fishing License |
| Frog | | Hunting or Fishing License |
| FURBEARERS | | |
| Trapping | | |
| Beaver | | Trapping License |
| Long-tailed Weasel | | Trapping License |
| Mink | | Trapping License |
| Muskrat | | Trapping License |
| Skunk | | Trapping License |
| Red Fox | | Trapping License |
| Gray Fox | | Trapping License |
| Coyote | | Trapping License |
| Raccoon | | Trapping License |
| Opossum | | Trapping License |
| Hunting | | |
| Red Fox | | Hunting License |
| Gray Fox | | Hunting License |
| Coyote | | Hunting License |
| Raccoon | | Hunting License |
| Opossum | | Hunting License |
| GAME BIRDS | | |
| Quail | entire season | Hunting License and Indiana Game Bird Habitat Stamp |
| Ruffed Grouse | entire season | Hunting License and Indiana Game Bird Habitat Stamp |
| Pheasant | entire season | Hunting License and Indiana Game Bird Habitat Stamp |
| Crow | | Hunting License |
| Wild Turkey | | Turkey License and Indiana Game Bird Habitat Stamp |
| MIGRATORY BIRDS | | |
| Waterfowl (Duck and Goose) | | Hunting License, Indiana Waterfowl Stamp, HIP Validation Number and, if you are 16 or older, a Federal Duck Stamp |
| Mourning Dove | | Hunting License, HIP Validation Number |
| Woodcock | entire season | Hunting License, HIP Validation Number |
| DEER | see table on page 13 | |

Frogs may be taken with gig or spear with a head not more than three inches in width and a single row of tines, bow and arrow, club, hands alone or pole or hand line with not more than one hook or artificial lure attached. Firearms used for frog hunting are restricted to a .22-caliber firearm loaded with bird shot only. Air rifles are prohibited. Frogs may not be sold.

Species of frogs, salamanders, lizards, snakes or turtles that are listed on the

state or federal endangered and threatened list may not be taken. See www.IN.gov/dnr/fishwild/nongame/e-list.htm

Indiana residents must have a valid hunting or fishing license in possession while collecting any non-listed, non-game species. All non-residents must possess a non-resident annual hunting license. The possession limit for all non-listed, non-game species is four.

Migratory Game Bird/Waterfowl

Migratory game bird and waterfowl hunting dates are set by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in cooperation with Indiana and other states. At the time of printing of this publication, season dates were not available. Dates are usually available mid to late August. See page 28 to request migratory bird season dates.

Restrictions:

No person shall take migratory game birds:

- With a trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than 10 gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fishhook, poison, drug, explosive or stupefying substance.
- With a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler which is incapable of removal without disassembling the gun.
- From a sink box (a low, floating device, having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water).
- From or with the aid or use of a car or other motor-driven land conveyance, or any aircraft, except that paraplegics and single or double amputees of the legs may take from any stationary motor vehicle or stationary motor-driven land conveyance.
- By the use or aid of live decoys. All live, tame or captive ducks and geese shall be removed for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to hunting, and confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such tame birds from the sight of migratory waterfowl.
- By driving, rallying or chasing birds with any motorized conveyance or any sail boat to put them in the range of the hunters.
- By the aid of baiting (placing feed such as corn, wheat, salt or other feed to constitute a lure or enticement), or on or over any baited area. Hunters should be aware that a baited area is considered to be baited for 10 days after the removal of the bait. Hunters are in violation if they know or should reasonably know that an area is baited.
- By the use of recorded or electrically amplified bird calls or sounds, or imitations of recorded or electrically amplified bird calls or sounds.

Waterfowl Hunting on State Areas

Reserved waterfowl hunt applications are available at state Fish and Wildlife areas or the DFW office in Indianapolis after September 1. Application deadlines vary by property.

For more information concerning waterfowl hunting on state-owned properties, contact the property (see page 46 for phone number), the Division of Fish and Wildlife at (317) 232-4080 or the Division of State Parks and Reservoirs at (317) 232-4124.

Non-Toxic Shot

Hunters are required to use approved non-toxic shot while hunting all waterfowl in Indiana. Non-toxic shots currently approved for use by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are bismuth-tin, tungsten-iron, tungsten-nickel-iron, tungsten-polymer, tungsten-matrix, and steel shot. Copper-plated, zinc chromate-plated, zinc chloride-plated and nickel-plated steel shot is approved as long as the plating represents less than one percent of the shot's weight. Lead shot plated with copper, nickel or other material does not qualify. It is illegal to possess shells loaded with anything other than approved non-toxic shot while hunting ducks, geese and coots anywhere in the state.

State and Federal Regulation Reminders

- All persons (see exemptions page 3) hunting ducks and geese in Indiana must have an Indiana hunting license and a signed Indiana Migratory Waterfowl Stamp and a HIP validation number. Additionally, all persons 16 years or older must have a signed federal duck stamp to hunt waterfowl. Federal migratory bird hunting stamps are available at most post offices. State waterfowl stamps are available from many hunting and fishing license vendors.
- Indiana enforces all federal migratory bird laws. Any violation of any provision of any state law regarding any federally protected migratory bird is also a violation of federal law.
- Migratory game birds may be hunted from a motorboat provided it is beached, resting at anchor, tied to a stationary object, or without motion other than that imparted by wind and current acting upon the hull, or due to hand-operated oars or paddles.
- You may retrieve dead or injured birds by hand or from a motorboat under power, but crippled birds may NOT be shot from a boat under power or in motion due to motor power.
- While in the field or traveling from the field to your home, migratory game birds in your possession must have one fully feathered wing or head attached to the carcass for identification purposes.
- All migratory game birds killed or crippled shall be retrieved, if possible, and retained in the custody of the hunter in the field.
- No person shall give, put or leave any migratory game birds at any place or in the custody of another person unless the birds are tagged by the hunter with the following information:
 1. The hunter's signature.
 2. The hunter's address.
 3. The total number of birds involved, by species.
 4. The dates such birds were killed.

No person or business shall receive or have in custody any migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are properly tagged.

Migratory bird hunters must register with the Harvest Information Program (HIP)

Licensed hunters in Indiana must register with the National Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program (HIP) before they hunt coots, doves, ducks, mergansers, gallinules, geese, snipes, sora rails or woodcocks.

Hunters must call 1-800-WETLAND toll-free or online at www.wetland.net and provide the information requested. The average call takes less than five minutes. At the end of the call, the hunter is given a validation number to record on his or her license. This number is valid from the date of registration through the close of the last current migratory bird hunting season. Lifetime license holders must also register with HIP.

Hunters need only call the number once each season, not each time they hunt. In addition to providing name and address during the call, hunters are asked questions designed to identify which species they hunted last year and, in some cases, the number of birds they harvested.

HIP is a joint effort between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and state wildlife agencies. The program is designed to improve harvest estimates for migratory game birds nationwide. Once the harvest information is gathered, the information is used by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and states to ensure that decisions regarding hunting seasons are soundly based on scientific evidence.

Game Bird Hunting

Hunting Wild Birds

English sparrows, starlings and feral pigeons (except homing pigeons) may be killed at any time. Brown-headed cowbirds, common grackles, red-winged blackbirds, rusty blackbirds, Brewer's blackbirds and crows may be controlled when they are damaging trees or crops. All other non-game species of birds not otherwise covered in this regulation are protected by state or federal law and may not be killed.

Federally Managed Migratory Birds

Under the direction of federal regulations, Indiana allows for hunting of migratory game birds such as geese, ducks, mourning doves and woodcock. Early migratory game bird seasons and bag limits are announced in late July. Waterfowl hunting seasons and bag limits are announced in mid-August. To request season dates and bag limits on migratory game birds, see page 28.

Quail Hunting

A valid hunting license and Indiana game bird habitat stamp are required to hunt quail in Indiana. You must meet fluorescent orange clothing requirements while hunting quail. Quail hunting is divided into two regions – north and south. State Road 26 serves as the dividing line. See page 4 for season dates in each region.

There are no equipment or ammunition restrictions for quail hunting. A 12- or 20- gauge shotgun loaded with 6- to 9-size shot is recommended.

Ruffed Grouse Hunting

A valid hunting license and game bird habitat stamp are required to hunt ruffed grouse. You must meet fluorescent orange clothing requirements while hunting grouse. Ruffed grouse may only be hunted in the following counties:

| | | | |
|-------------|-----------|--------|-------------|
| Bartholomew | Jefferson | Monroe | Perry |
| Brown | Johnson | Morgan | Scott |
| Clark | Lawrence | Ohio | Steuben |
| Crawford | Lagrange | Orange | Switzerland |
| Jackson | Martin | Owen | Washington |

Ruffed grouse may be hunted in these portions of the following counties:

- Dearborn (south of U.S. 50)
- Greene (east of U.S. 231)
- Jennings (south of U.S. 50)
- Putnam (south of U.S. 40)
- Ripley (south of U.S. 50)

Pigeon River Fish and Wildlife area is closed to ruffed grouse hunting.

There are no equipment or ammunition restrictions for ruffed grouse hunting. A 12- or 20- gauge shotgun loaded with 6- to 7 1/2-size shot is recommended.

Crow Hunting

Crow hunting season runs July 1 through Aug. 15 and Dec. 13 through Mar. 1. Crows may be taken outside of the hunting season only if they are damaging trees, crops, livestock or wildlife. There are no restrictions on use of calls or decoys. You are not required to have a state or federal waterfowl stamp. You may take crows with bow and arrow, firearm or falconry.

Pheasant Hunting

A valid hunting license and Indiana game bird habitat stamp are required to hunt pheasant. See page 4 for season dates. You must meet fluorescent orange clothing requirements while hunting pheasants. The bag limit for pheasants is two male (cock) pheasants. It is illegal to shoot female pheasants (hens), except during put-and-take hunts in designated areas. If you take a pheasant, you must leave the head and head plumage attached while you are transporting the bird. There are no equipment or ammunition restrictions for pheasant hunting. A 12- or 20-gauge shotgun loaded with 4- to 6-size shot is recommended.

Put-and-Take Hunts

Pheasants are released for put-and-take hunting beginning Nov. 22 and typically running for approximately nine days on Atterbury, Glendale, Pigeon River (west of State Road 3), Tri-County, Willow Slough and Winamac Fish and Wildlife areas and Huntington Lake. The cost for put-and-take hunts is \$15 per person and the bag limit is two birds. A hunter filling his/her limit in the put-and-take hunt may not take any more pheasants that day.

Game Bird Habitat Special Hunts

The Division of Fish and Wildlife conducts special reserved pheasant hunts on game bird habitat areas in northern Indiana. See page 25 for information on how to apply.

Hunter education class schedules online



The Division of Law Enforcement provides a current listing of hunter education classes by county on the web. Visit the DNR web site at www.IN.gov/dnr/lawenfor/hunt-edu.htm and click on Hunter Education. A hunter education certificate is required for anyone born after 1986 to obtain a hunting license. Veteran hunters may also need certification if they are hunting out of state.

Wild Turkey Season

Indiana's 2004 spring season for wild turkey hunting includes 90 counties. The 2004 season will be from April 21 to May 9. To hunt wild turkey, Indiana residents need a resident turkey hunting license and a valid game bird habitat stamp, or a lifetime or youth license. For information on non-resident wild turkey licenses, see page 3.

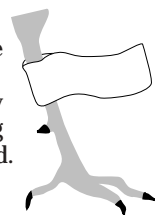
Turkeys may be hunted from ground level or from elevated stands. Turkeys can be called with mouth- or hand-operated calls. Artificial turkey decoys may be used. It is illegal to use dogs, live decoys, electronically powered or controlled decoys or recorded calls to hunt turkeys. It is illegal to hunt turkeys over bait (an area is considered baited for ten days after removal of bait).

Bag Limit

The bag limit and possession limit for wild turkey is one bearded or male turkey per season.

Tagging

A temporary transportation tag provided with the turkey hunting license and bearing the license number must be attached to the leg of the turkey, directly above the spur, immediately upon taking and before it is transported from the field. Resident landowners, qualified non-resident landowners, lessees, Indiana servicemen on leave who are legally hunting without a license, and lifetime and youth license holders must immediately tag the turkey with a paper stating hunter's name, complete address and date of kill before transporting it from the field. The feathers and beard of a wild turkey must remain attached while the wild turkey is in transit from the site where taken.



Notching Temporary Tags

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---------|-----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| TRANSPORTATION TAG FOR INDIANA WILD TURKEY | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TURKEY MUST BE TAGGED IMMEDIATELY AND TAKEN TO A TURKEY CHECK STATION WITHIN 24 HOURS. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | NO. 000 | |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | MAY |

Temporary wild turkey leg tags must be notched with a knife or other sharp object noting the month and day the turkey was harvested. A V-shaped notch should be used as shown above. A tag notched more than twice is void.

Checking

If you are successful in bagging a turkey, you must have it checked at an official turkey check station within 24 hours of harvest or before leaving the state. While at the official turkey check station, you must attach a permanent transportation tag provided at the check station. The tag must remain on the turkey until processing begins. See page 38-45 for a list of official turkey check stations.

Legal equipment

- Turkeys can be hunted only with:
- A 10-, 12-, 16- or 20-gauge shotguns loaded with pellets of size No. 4, 5, 6, 7 or 7-1/2.
 - A muzzleloading shotgun loaded with pellets of size No. 4, 5, 6, 7 or 7-1/2. Combination loads using shot sizes other than these are illegal.
 - Bow and arrow.
- It is illegal to possess a handgun while hunting turkeys.

Hunting hours

Wild turkeys may only be hunted from 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset. All Fish and Wildlife Areas, Huntington, Mississinewa and Salamonie Reservoirs have hunting hours 1/2 hour before sunrise to noon eastern standard time. Call the property for additional information.

Wild turkey hunting range:

Turkey hunting is allowed statewide except for Rush and Shelby counties. Some DNR properties have reserved hunts. See page 21.

Turkey Hunting Safety Tips

Wild turkey hunting is relatively safe compared to participation in other types of outdoor recreation, but each year accidents do occur. It is important to review the rules of safe hunting each year.

Before you go hunting

- Check with your doctor to make sure you are in good health, and hunt within your physical limitations.
- If you are hunting with others, let them know if you have a physical limitation.
- Make sure you have a working knowledge of first aid.
- Let someone know where you are hunting and when you expect to return.

During the hunt

- Respect property rights and get permission before hunting on private land.
- Don't wear anything with black, blue, white or red on your hunting outfit. They are the colors of a turkey gobbler's head.
- For maximum safety, sit with your back against a tree that is greater in diameter than the width of your shoulders and taller than your head.
- Select a calling position where you can see for at least 50 yards to the front and both sides.
- Listen for changes in the woods. Wildlife, such as blue jays and chipmunks, make a lot of noise when an intruder enters their area. Songbirds tend to stop singing. That intruder could be another turkey hunter.
- Never wave, stand up or make any turkey calls to alert another hunter that you are in the area. Remain still and call out in a loud, clear voice to let the other hunter know you are in the area.
- Keep the safety on and your finger off the trigger until you are ready to shoot.
- Never shoot at a sound or movement. Identify your target and what's beyond.

After the hunt

- If you hunted on private land, make sure to thank the land owner before you leave.
- Check and clean your equipment.

Trapping Regulations

You must have a valid Indiana trapping license to set traps. (See page 3 for non-resident youth licence information.) Traps may not be set prior to 8 a.m. on opening day of trapping season. Traps must be checked and animals removed at least one time every 24 hours. Tree climbing equipment may not be used as an aid in removing wild animals from trees. The use of motor-driven watercraft is permitted for purposes of setting or checking trap lines. Traps may be set at any distance from openings to tile drains or entrances to beaver or muskrat lodges.

Trapping Seasons

Furbearing game animals in Indiana include beaver, coyote, gray fox, long-tailed weasel, mink, muskrat, opossum, raccoon, red fox and skunk.

Furbearers

Trapping Dates

| | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Beaver | Nov. 15, 2003-Mar. 15, 2004 |
| Weasel (<i>long-tailed weasel only</i>) | Nov. 15, 2003-Jan. 31, 2004 |
| Mink and Muskrat | Nov. 15, 2003-Jan. 31, 2004 |
| Skunk | Oct. 15, 2003-Jan. 31, 2004 |
| Red and Gray Fox, Coyote | Oct. 15, 2003-Jan. 31, 2004 |
| Raccoon and Opossum | Nov. 15, 2003-Jan. 31, 2004 |

All trapping dates are from 8 a.m. of the first day of the season to noon of the last day of the season (Eastern Standard Time). There are no daily bag or possession limits.

TYPES OF TRAPS

Foot hold traps

It is illegal to use a foot hold trap with saw-toothed or spiked jaws. It is illegal to take any furbearing animal with foot hold traps size 3 or larger without offset jaws unless the trap is completely covered by water.

Snares

It is only legal to use a snare to trap a wild animal on land owned by you or with the written permission of the landowner. The maximum legal circumference for snare loops is 15 inches, unless at least half of the snare loop is covered by water or if the snare employs a relaxing snare lock. A relaxing snare lock allows the snare loop to loosen slightly to reduce the possibility of strangulation. Regulations on snare size and lock are designed to prevent accidental loss of domestic animals.

Body grip traps (Conibears)

It is illegal to take furbearers with a standard Conibear 330, Dahlgren, Bigelow, or other body-gripping trap with jaws larger than 7 1/2-inches or which has jaws larger than 7 1/2-inch square unless the trap is completely covered by water.

Box Traps

Furbearers may be captured in box traps used on land or under water.

Possession of Hides

It is illegal to possess the untanned hides of furbearers outside of these dates:

Species

Legal Possession of Hides

| | |
|--|------------------|
| Beaver | Nov. 15-March 22 |
| Red, Gray Fox | Oct. 15-March 7 |
| Skunk | Oct. 15-Feb. 7 |
| Mink, Muskrat, or Long-tailed Weasel | Nov. 15-Feb. 7 |
| Raccoon, Opossum | Nov. 8-Feb. 7 |
| Coyote | No restriction |

The sale of legally harvested furbearing mammals or untanned hides of furbearing mammals can be made to licensed fur buyers only. For a list of Indiana licensed fur buyers, contact the Division of Fish and Wildlife.

Trapper Education

The Department of Natural Resources offers trapper education courses. The DNR's trapping education program describes basic methods for trapping furbearers, handling the catch and the responsibilities of the trapper. Trapping is a traditional art that is under a great deal of public scrutiny. Trappers' wise use and respect for wildlife resources, as well as consideration for other people, will help ensure that Hoosiers continue to have the freedom to choose trapping as an outdoor activity. The DNR offers trapper education courses throughout the state. The course takes approximately six hours to complete. For information on classes in your area, contact your local DNR Law Enforcement district office.

For more intensive training, the Furtakers of America, in cooperation with the DNR and Purdue University, offers the Professional Trapper's Short Course each fall in northeast Indiana. The week-long course covers the biology and management of furbearers, nuisance wildlife control, diseases associated with wildlife, trapping regulations, and public perceptions of trapping. The focus is on the mastery of field techniques. Approximately eight hours are spent afield each day. Students are divided into small groups based on level of experience to ensure that each student receives the best field training possible. Two continuing education credits are offered through Purdue University for completion of the course. For more information, contact Charlie Parks at 410 South Poplar, Lagrange, IN 46761.

Avoid Trapping Otters

River otters potentially can be found throughout the entire state. They are an endangered species recently reintroduced to Indiana by the DNR.

Beaver, raccoon and otter share similar habitats, so many trap sets that are successful for beaver and raccoon trapping are also effective for trapping otter. Whether you are trapping during the established season or doing wildlife control work under a DNR-issued permit, you will want to employ all the tactics you can to avoid accidentally capturing otter. For more information on creating species-specific sets, request the publication *Avoiding Otter While Trapping Beaver and Raccoon*. Write to:

Fish and Wildlife Publications
402 W. Washington St., Room W273
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Or visit: www.IN.gov/dnr/fishwild/publications/otter/raccoon.htm.

Endangered Wildlife

The badger, bobcat and river otter are protected under provisions of the Indiana Endangered Species Conservation Act. It is illegal to take or possess these furbearers. If you accidentally trap a badger, bobcat or river otter, report the incident to a conservation officer. There is no penalty for reporting accidental captures. If the animal is dead, the carcass must be surrendered to a conservation officer. Information provided by hunters and trappers is an important means of determining the status and distribution of endangered species in Indiana.

For more information on threatened and endangered wildlife, contact the DNR's Endangered Wildlife Program, (317) 232-4080 or visit the Indiana Fish and Wildlife website at www.IN.gov/dnr/fishwild/endangered/.

Nuisance Animals

A resident landowner or tenant may take, without a permit, a beaver, mink, muskrat, long-tailed weasel, red fox, gray fox, opossum, skunk, or raccoon that is discovered damaging property; you must report the taking of the animal to a conservation officer within 72 hours. The conservation officer will direct you as how to dispose of the animal. Ground hogs (woodchucks) may be taken at any time using any equipment.

Raccoon Non-resident Hunting/Trapping

Indiana law allows non-residents to hunt or trap raccoons in Indiana only on the same basis that the season is open to Indiana residents in the non-resident's state. If another state restricts Indiana hunters from hunting or trapping raccoons in that state, then residents of that state will be restricted on the same basis. For example, if state X does not allow Indiana residents to hunt raccoons for the first two weeks of raccoon season, then residents of state X are not allowed to hunt in Indiana for the first two weeks of the Indiana raccoon season. In addition, the raccoon season is open to residents of other states only on days when the Indiana raccoon season and the raccoon season in the non-resident's state coincide.

Hunting Furbearers

A continuously burning light that can be seen for at least 500 feet must be carried while pursuing furbearing animals between sunset and sunrise. It is illegal to remove wild animals from any cavity or den. It is illegal to disturb the den or nest of any mammal by shooting, digging, cutting, or chipping or with the aid of smoke, fire, fumes, chemicals, ferret or other small animal, or any device introduced into the hole where the animal is sheltered. It is illegal to use or carry tree climbing or cutting equipment for the purpose of dislodging an animal from a tree.

Landowners may take coyotes at any time on the land they own or provide written permission for others to take coyotes on their land at any time.

Furbearers

Hunting Dates

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Red and Gray Fox, Coyote | Oct. 15, 2003-Feb. 28, 2004 |
| Raccoon and Opossum | Nov. 8, 2003-Jan. 31, 2004 |
| Raccoon and Opossum | |
| Dog Running | Feb. 15, 2003-Oct. 14, 2003 |
| Taking Season | Nov. 8, 2003-Jan. 31, 2004 |

Dog Running

The dog running season for raccoon and opossum runs from noon on Feb. 15 through noon on Oct. 14 and noon on Nov. 8 through noon on Jan. 31. It is illegal to possess a firearm, air rifle, or another device capable of taking a raccoon or opossum while chasing a raccoon or opossum during the dog running season. Furbearers may be taken using dogs only during the part of the season that coincides with the hunting season for furbearers (Nov. 8 through Jan. 31).

Predator Calling

It is legal to hunt fox and coyote with the use of mouth- or hand-operated calls, or with the use of recorded calls. Spotlights may be used to take fox and coyote. There are no restrictions on hunting hours or firearms.

It is illegal to hunt fox or coyote from a roadway or with the use of any motor-driven conveyance.

Protect Indiana Wildlife

Give T.I.P. a call when you see poachers violating our fish, wildlife and environmental laws. You don't need to have a smoking gun, a videotape and a signed confession before you call 1-800-TIP-IDNR. Although we like to have a full bag of evidence when we make arrests for fish and wildlife law violations, sometimes all we need is a tip.

The facts that you provide to T.I.P. can be the important piece that helps us get a major fish and wildlife law breaker out of the field. In nine years, 27,000 calls have turned into 14,000 investigations and 900 arrests for fish and wildlife law violations. Even minor facts can earn you big rewards if your tip helps prosecute a violator.

Give T.I.P. a call when you see people breaking fish, wildlife and environmental laws.

Call 1-800-TIP-IDNR



Deer Regulations

License Requirements

You must have an archery license or extra archery license to hunt with a bow and arrow during the archery seasons (overlaps firearm season and muzzleloader season).

You must have a firearms license to hunt with a handgun, shotgun or muzzleloader during the firearms season. A firearms license is not valid during the muzzleloader season.

You must have a muzzleloader license to hunt with a muzzleloader during the muzzleloader season, regardless of success during the firearms season. A muzzleloader license is not valid during the firearms season.

It is illegal to hunt deer unless you have a complete and signed deer hunting, youth or lifetime license bearing your name (see page 3 for exemptions).

Legal Hunting Hours

Legal hunting hours for all deer seasons are from 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. Shotguns and handguns may be possessed in the field before and after legal hours as long as no shells are in the chamber or magazine. A muzzleloading firearm may be possessed in the field before and after legal hunting hours as long as the percussion cap has been removed from the nipple, in the case of percussion arms, or the pan is not primed, in the case of flintlock arms. A long bow, crossbow or compound bow may be possessed in the field before and after legal hunting hours only if the nock of the arrow is not placed on the bow string.

Fluorescent Orange (Hunter Orange) Requirements for Deer Hunting

You must meet fluorescent orange requirements while hunting for deer during firearms and muzzleloader seasons (Nov. 15 through Nov. 30 and Dec. 6 through Dec. 21). If you are using archery equipment, you must meet fluorescent orange requirements while hunting during these dates. See page 5 for fluorescent orange requirements.

Party Hunting

The practice of party hunting is illegal. In a party hunting arrangement, a hunter not only shoots to fill his/her license but shoots additional deer to fill the licenses of other hunting party members. You may not use a deer tag issued to you to tag a deer shot by another person.

Spotlighting Deer

It is illegal to shine a spotlight, searchlight or other artificial light for the purpose of taking, attempting to take or assisting another person to take a deer, or while in possession of a firearm, bow or crossbow.

Violation Penalties

Any person who takes a deer in violation of any regulation will be penalized \$500 in addition to any other penalty he may be subject to under the law. Equipment such as guns and vehicles used in violation of fish and wildlife laws may be seized for evidence, and upon conviction, confiscated at the discretion of the court.

Infrared Sensors

The use of infrared sensors to locate or take deer is illegal. It is also illegal to hunt or to retrieve deer with the aid of an infrared detector.

Antlered Deer

An antlered deer must have at least one antler that is at least three inches long.

Tree Stands

Tree stands may be used for hunting deer during all deer hunting seasons. It is illegal to erect or hunt from a permanent tree blind on state-owned or state-leased lands. Tree stands used on state-owned or -leased lands, U.S. Forest Service lands and lands of the Muscatatuck and Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuges must be portable and may be left overnight only between Sept. 1 and Jan. 10. A fastener used in conjunction with a tree stand and a tree or pole climber which penetrates a tree more than 1/2 inch is prohibited on these lands. A tree stand must be legibly marked with the owner's name, address and telephone number. Exception: At Kingsbury FWA, no stands may be placed and left overnight until noon, Sept. 1.

Fair Chase

It is illegal to use bait, salt, snares, dogs or other domesticated animals to take deer. Bait is considered any product that is transported into a hunting area and placed there for animal consumption. Baits can be in the form of salt, mineral blocks, prepared solid or liquid which is intended for the animal to eat. An area is considered to be baited for 10 days after the removal of the bait and any affected soil.

Dogs may be used while on a leash only to track or trail wounded deer.

Artificial deer decoys are legal for deer hunting.

Urban Deer Zones

The bag limit for the urban zones allows hunters to harvest three antlerless and one deer of either sex, by archery, within an urban zone. This is in addition to all other bag limits. The zones are as follows:

- Indianapolis - all of Marion County, Hendricks County east of SR 267; southeast portion of Boone County bounded by SR 267, I-65, SR 32; and portion of Hamilton County south of SR 32.
- Fort Wayne - the portion of Allen County lying within the bounds of I-69 and SR 469.
- Evansville - all of Vanderburg County.
- Lafayette - portion of Tippecanoe County north of SR 28
- Gary - the portion of Lake County north of US 30
- Crown Point - the portion of Lake County within the corporate limits of Crown Point.
- Chesterton - the portion of Porter County north of US 94.
- Michigan City - the portion of LaPorte County north of US 94.
- Madison - the portion of Jefferson County bounded on the east by US 421, on the north and west by SR 62 and on the south by SR 56.

The rule provides an incentive for hunters to remove additional deer from these areas by increasing the bag limit for the area. The season is Sept. 15-Nov. 30 and Dec. 6-Jan. 4.

The provision does not override any local ordinances restricting shooting of firearms and bows. Hunters must obtain permission from landowners to hunt on their property.

An extra archery license is needed for each deer taken.

Deer Tagging and Checking

Immediately upon killing a deer, you must notch the temporary transportation tag provided with the deer hunting license to indicate the sex of the deer and the month and day of the kill. You are not required to place the tag on the deer while dragging it out of the field as long as you have the notched tag and carry it with you. You must maintain immediate custody of and visual contact with the deer carcass. The tag must be attached to the deer before you leave the deer or load the deer in a vehicle.

Resident landowners, qualified nonresident landowners, lessees, Indiana servicemen on leave who are legally hunting without a license, and youth and lifetime license holders must tag the deer carcass with a paper stating their name, address, the date and sex of the deer before transporting the carcass or leaving it unattended.

The person who takes the deer must deliver the deer to an official deer check station within 24 hours of the kill for

Sept.

Oct.

Nov.

Dec.

Jan.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

Male

INDIANA RESIDENT DEER TAG
TEMPORARY DEER TRANSPORTATION TAG
INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

☒ Regular Deer License

☐ Bonus Antlerless

☐ Military or Refuge

Hunter must present License Request Certificate

SEASON TYPE
☒ Firearm
☐ Muzzleloader
☐ Archery, Extra archery or Crossbow
☐ Bonus Antlerless Any legal equipment

Mark only one hunt type and only one season type.
A Special Hunt Notification must accompany this license if used for a special hunt.

16171819202122232425262728293031FEMALE

NO.

Temporary Tag Notching

Temporary deer tags must be notched with a knife or other sharp object noting the month and day of harvest and the sex of the deer. A V-shaped notch should be used as shown above. A tag notched more than three times is void. DO NOT mark tag with a pen or pencil.

registration (see pages 38 to 45 of this guide for a complete listing). You must surrender the top portion of your annual deer hunting license. Before leaving the check station, you must affix the permanent seal to the carcass. The permanent seal must remain attached until the carcass is placed in the custody of another person for processing or until the carcass has been processed and packaged. The deer head must remain attached to the carcass until the tag is attached and locked at the deer check station.

| Deer Licenses and Equipment | | Legal Equipment | | | | | | Hunter Orange Required |
|--|--|-----------------|---------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------|-------------------|------------------------|
| | | Archery | Handgun | Muzzleloading Handgun | Muzzleloading Long Gun | Shotgun | Crossbow | |
| License Required | | | | | | | | |
| Early Archery Season – Oct. 1 to Nov. 30 | | | | | | | | |
| Archery License | | • | | | | | Nov. 15 - Nov. 30 | |
| Extra Archery License (including Urban Deer Zones*) | | • | | | | | Nov. 15 - Nov. 30 | |
| Archery Military/Refuge License | | • | | | | | Nov. 15 - Nov. 30 | |
| Firearms Season – Nov. 15 to Nov. 30 | | | | | | | | |
| Firearms License | | | • | • | • | • | Nov. 15 - Nov. 30 | |
| Bonus Antlerless Deer License | | • | • | • | • | • | Nov. 15 - Nov. 30 | |
| Firearm Military/Refuge License (only on military/refuge hunt on date of permit) | | | | | • | • | Nov. 15 - Nov. 30 | |
| Muzzleloader Season – Dec. 6 to Dec. 21 | | | | | | | | |
| Muzzleloader License | | | | • | • | | Dec. 6 - Dec. 21 | |
| Bonus Antlerless Deer License | | | | • | • | | Dec. 6 - Dec. 21 | |
| Muzzleloader Military/Refuge License (only on military/refuge hunt on date of permit) | | | | | • | | Dec. 6 - Dec. 21 | |
| Late Archery Season – Dec. 6 to Jan. 4 | | | | | | | | |
| Archery License | | • | | | | • | Dec. 6 - Dec. 21 | |
| Extra Archery License (including Urban Deer Zones*) | | • | | | | • | Dec. 6 - Dec. 21 | |
| Archery Military/Refuge License (only on military/refuge hunt on date of permit) | | • | | | | | Dec. 6 - Dec. 21 | |
| Bonus Antlerless Deer License | | • | | | | • | Dec. 6 - Dec. 21 | |
| * Urban Deer Zone season is Sept. 15 to Nov. 30 and Dec. 6 to Jan. 4. | | | | | | | | |

Deer Hunting Equipment

Legal Firearms

Shotguns, handguns, muzzleloading long guns and muzzleloading handguns are legal during the firearms season. Only muzzleloading firearms are legal during the muzzleloader season.

Hunters may carry more than one type of firearm in the field at a time when hunting during the firearms season only (as long as all firearms are legal for hunting deer). Shotguns must be 10-, 12-, 16- or 20-gauge or .410 bore loaded with slugs or sabot bullets. Rifled slug barrels are permitted. Combination rifle-shotguns are not allowed.

Muzzleloading firearms must be .44 caliber or larger loaded with a single, ball-shaped or elongated bullet of at least .44 caliber. Saboted bullets are allowed, provided the bullet is .44 caliber or larger. A muzzleloading firearm must be loaded from the muzzle. Multiple-barrel muzzleloading long guns are allowed.

Legal Handguns for Deer Hunting

Handguns, other than muzzleloading, must have a barrel at least four inches long and must fire a bullet of .243-inch diameter or larger. The handgun cartridge case, without the bullet, must be at least 1.16 inches long. Full metal-jacketed bullets are not permitted. A handgun may not be concealed. Handguns are not permitted on any military areas. Some types of handgun cartridges legal for deer hunting include 357 Magnum, 41 Magnum, 44 Magnum, 44 Special, 45 Colt, 45 Long Colt, 45 Winchester Magnum, 35 Remington and 357 Herrett.

Some illegal handgun cartridges for deer hunting are 38 Special, 38 Smith and Wesson, 38 Colt New Police, 38/200, 38 Long Colt, 38 Super, 38 ACP, 38 Colt Auto, 45 ACP, 45 Automatic and 45 Auto Rim. All 25/20, 32/20 and 30 carbine ammunition is prohibited also.

Muzzleloading handguns are allowed. The muzzleloading handgun must be single shot, .50 caliber or larger, loaded with bullets at least .44 caliber and have a barrel at least 12 inches long, measured from the base of the breech plug excluding tangs and other projections to the end of the barrel including the muzzle crown.

Carrying Firearms

It is legal to carry more than one type of firearm at a time when hunting during the firearms season only. It is illegal to possess firearms while hunting deer with archery equipment.

Legal Archery Equipment

Legal equipment includes long bows, compound bows or recurve bows and arrows. The bow must have a pull of at least 35 pounds. Arrows must be tipped with broadheads that are metal, metal-edged, or napped flint, chert or obsidian. Poisoned or exploding arrows are illegal.

Bows drawn, held or released by means other than by hand or hand-held releases may not be used. No portion of the bow's riser or any track, trough, channel, arrow rest or other device that attaches to the bow's riser can guide the arrow from a point back beyond the bow's brace height. The common overdraw is still allowed as long as it does not extend beyond the string when the bow is relaxed.

It is illegal to possess firearms while hunting deer with a bow and arrow. A bow may be possessed in the field before and after legal shooting hours only if the nock of the arrow is not placed on the bow string.

DEER BAG LIMIT SUMMARY

Type of License

Limit

Only one antlered deer per hunter may be taken with all of the following 3 licenses combined.

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Archery License | 2 antlerless deer OR 1 antlered deer and 1 antlerless deer |
| Firearms License | 1 antlered deer |
| Muzzleloader License | 1 deer of either sex |

Urban, Bonus, Military/Refuge and State Park/Nature Preserves bag limits can be added to limits listed above.

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Bonus Antlerless License | 1 antlerless deer (Maximum of 4 bonus licenses not to exceed county maximum for bonus antlerless deer, in any county) |
| Urban Deer Zones Archery License | 3 antlerless and 1 antlered deer OR 4 antlerless deer |
| Military/Refuge Archery License | 1 deer of either sex |
| Military/Refuge Firearms License | 1 deer of either sex |

NOTE: An antlered deer must have at least one antler that is at least three inches long. A license is required for each deer taken, except no license is required for deer taken in State Park/Nature Preserve reduction hunts.

Crossbows legal in late deer season

Crossbows are legal hunting equipment during the late archery deer season.

Deer hunters may use crossbows to harvest only antlerless deer and only in the late archery season. Crossbows must have a minimum 125-pound pull and a mechanical safety. Also, it is illegal to have an arrow placed on the crossbow string outside of legal deer hunting hours while in the field.

Hunters with a handicapped permit may still take antlered deer with a crossbow according to their handicapped permit.

ARCHER SURVEY



If you plan to bowhunt for deer in the early archery season, wildlife researchers want to borrow your eyes and ears. DNR biologists are looking for 3,000 deer archery hunters to record the wildlife they see while hunting from Oct. 1 through Nov. 15. Sightings by bowhunters of wildlife such as red fox, rabbit, coyote, fox, squirrel, quail and ruffed grouse are used to monitor population trends from year to year.

If you would like to be a participant, send your name and address no later than Sept. 15, 2003 to: Archer Survey, Division of Fish and Wildlife, 562 DNR Rd., Mitchell, IN 47446.

Participants will be selected for the 2003 season based on county of residence and will be uniformly distributed around the state. If you were a participant in 2002, you do not need to send in your name again for 2003.

Bonus Antlerless Deer

The DNR offers bonus antlerless deer bag limits in an effort to manage deer herds throughout the state. Indiana wildlife biologists strive to maintain deer herds at levels that maximize benefits to hunters and wildlife watchers and minimize crop damage and car-deer collisions.

Wildlife managers have set bonus antlerless deer bag limits on a county-by-county basis. The county bag limit for bonus antlerless deer is based on many different factors including crop depredation problems in an area, previous years' deer harvests and input from Hoosiers interested in deer management.

Antlerless Deer Bag Limits

The map in the next column indicates the bonus antlerless deer bag limits for each county.

If you are hunting in a county that has a bag limit of one or more, you may utilize bonus antlerless deer licenses starting in the firearms season, throughout the muzzleloader and late archery seasons. For counties marked "A," you may take one antlerless deer during the periods of Nov. 27 through Nov. 30 or Dec. 6 through Jan. 4. You may not use a bonus antlerless license in an "A" county before Nov. 27. You may use any equipment that is legal during the season in which you are hunting.

You may take one bonus antlerless deer per license. You may purchase a maximum of four bonus antlerless licenses for use in any county statewide, but you may not take more than the county bag limit for bonus antlerless deer in any specific county.

Example 1:

You hunt deer primarily in Orange County. You may use up to three bonus antlerless licenses in Orange County, which has a maximum bag limit of three; you may use one bonus license in any other county with a bag limit of at least one.

Example 2:

You hunt deer primarily in Rush County, which is listed as "A." You may use one bonus license in Rush County during the last four days firearms season (Nov. 27 – 30) or during the muzzleloader and late archery seasons. You may use any equipment that is legal during the season in which you are hunting. If you choose, you can also use three additional bonus licenses in Jackson County.

Landowners/lessees

Indiana resident farmland owners, qualified non-resident farmland owners and farmland lessees who farm that land are not required to purchase bonus antlerless deer licenses to take bonus antlerless deer on their property. However, landowners and lessees must still follow the statewide and county bag limits for antlerless deer, as well as other deer regulations.

Youth/Lifetime License Holders

Comprehensive lifetime and youth hunting license holders are not required to purchase bonus antlerless deer licenses. Lifetime/youth license hunters must follow the bonus antlerless bag limits and all other deer regulations.

Bonus Antlerless Licenses on DNR Property

Many Indiana DNR properties (Fish and Wildlife Areas, Forests, Recreation Areas, Reservoirs, etc.) do not allow use of bonus antlerless licenses. These areas receive sufficient hunting pressure to keep deer populations in check and do not require additional harvest of deer. Contact the property

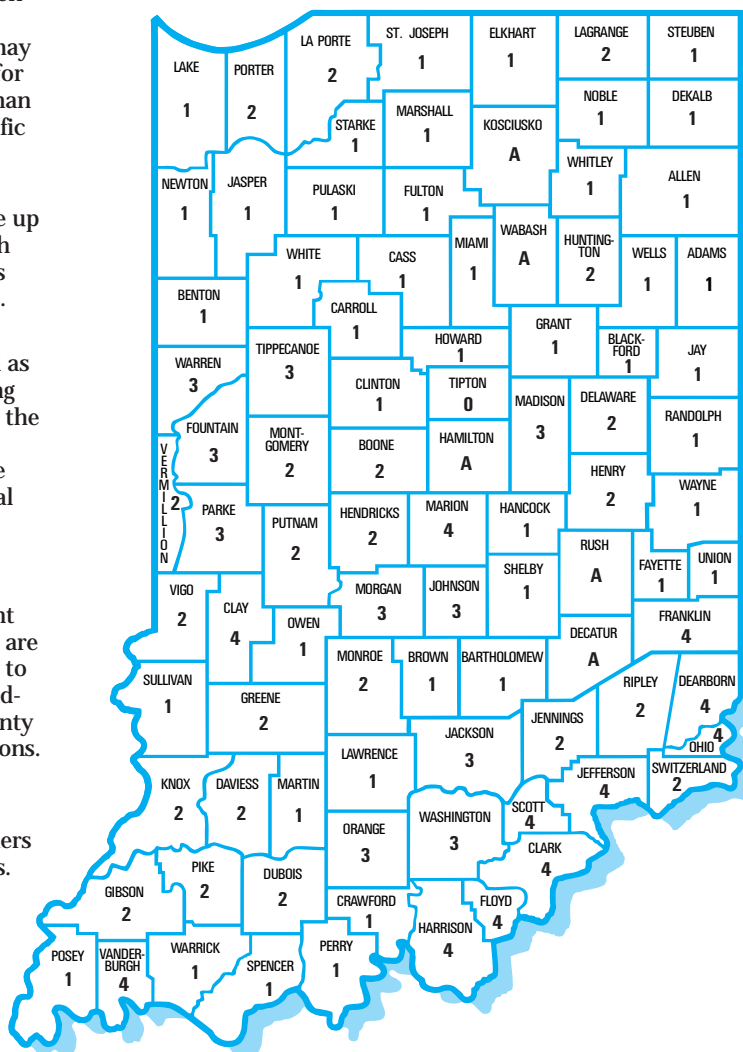
manager where you plan to hunt for information.

Areas not allowing the use of bonus antlerless permits:

- Hardy Lake
- Mississinewa Reservoir
- Francis Slocum State Forest (managed by Mississinewa Reservoir)
- Salamonie Reservoir
- Salamonie State Forest (managed by Salamonie Reservoir)
- Huntington Reservoir
- Patoka **except** that part of the property east of SR 145 in Orange and Crawford Co. **and** that part of the property south of SR 164 in Dubois and Crawford County.
- Greene-Sullivan State Forest
- Atterbury FWA
- Blue Grass FWA
- Brush Creek FWA
- Chinook FWA
- Crosley FWA
- Glendale FWA
- Hillenbrand FWA
- Hovey Lake FWA
- Jasper-Pulaski FWA
- Kankakee FWA
- Kingsbury FWA
- Lasalle FWA
- Minnehaha FWA
- Pigeon River FWA
- Splinter Ridge FWA
- Sugar Ridge FWA
- Tri-county FWA
- Wilbur Wright FWA
- Willow Slough FWA
- Winamac FWA

Deer Hotline

If you have questions about the bonus antlerless deer program, contact the DNR's Deer Hotline at (812) 334-3795. DNR personnel are on hand to answer questions from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. This is not a toll-free call.



For counties designated as "A": You may use a bonus county license to take antlerless deer during the periods of Nov. 27 - 30 (last four days of firearms season) and Dec. 6 - Jan. 4 (muzzleloader and archery seasons).

Chronic Wasting Disease

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD), is a serious neurologic disease affecting elk, white-tailed and mule deer. Although it has been associated with captive deer and elk in the past, CWD has more recently been found in free-ranging white-tailed deer in the midwest. This disease has been a serious concern for a number of western and plains states for the last several years and has now been found in free-ranging white-tailed deer in Wisconsin and Illinois. Although the methods of transmission are not completely known, evidence suggests that infected animals may transmit the disease by animal-to-animal contact or by environmental contamination. CWD is always fatal to the infected animal and there is no diagnostic test available to detect CWD in live animals.

CWD has not been reported in Indiana. To guard against the possible occurrence and spread of CWD, the Indiana State Board of Animal Health and the Department of Natural Resources are working to prevent the importation of diseased animals into Indiana and to monitor wild deer and captive deer and elk for any signs of the disease. This fall, BOAH and DNR will again conduct a large scale testing program by taking tissue samples at deer check stations while maintaining a close watch on captive deer and elk herds.

While CWD is related to other well-known diseases, such as scrapie in sheep, bovine spongiform encephalopathy (mad cow disease) and Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease in humans, public health officials have *not* found any evidence that CWD in deer or elk can be transmitted to humans. Although no link has been found between CWD and any diseases of humans, deer hunters should follow some common sense precautions. If you see an emaciated or sick-looking deer, do not shoot it. Rather, note the location and notify a DNR official. In the rare event that an emaciated or otherwise unhealthy deer is harvested, contact a DNR official or the BOAH. Regardless, hunters should take the following precautions: wear rubber gloves while field dressing and avoiding handling or eating deer brain, spinal cord, spleen or lymph nodes.

For up-to-date information on CWD and the state's prevention and monitoring program visit: www.deerhealth.IN.gov.

Deer TB monitoring

Due to the spread of tuberculosis in deer in northeastern Michigan, the Indiana DNR and Board of Animal Health are monitoring Indiana's deer herd for signs of the disease. There have been no deer that have tested positive for TB in Indiana. You can help with this effort to protect Indiana's domestic and wild animal populations by helping to verify that Hoosier deer continue to be disease-free.

Inspect your deer

1. While field dressing your deer, look for white or red-blister-like sores (lesions) on internal organs or inside of the carcass. In the unlikely event you see lesions, exercise caution in handling the animal.
2. Do not proceed with further processing until the carcass is examined by a State Board of Animal Health veterinarian. Refrigerate (or ice down) the carcass if possible.
3. Keep the animal, including the head, intact until examined.

To contact a veterinarian, call 1-877-747-3038 (toll free). This number is answered Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.. Messages left on weekends or holidays will be returned as soon as possible.

A veterinarian will advise you, free-of-charge, about the appropriate use of the animal and may collect tissue samples for further testing. By reporting any suspicious lesion, you are helping to protect the health status of Indiana's white-tailed deer resource.

If you submit your deer for further testing, the DNR will replace your permanent/temporary deer tag to allow revalidation of your existing license.

After field dressing or handling any carcass or other raw meat, wash your hands with soap and water. Hand washing removes disease-causing bacteria, including tuberculosis. This practice should always be followed, even if the animal appears healthy.

For more information on Indiana's deer TB monitoring program, contact the Board of Animal Health.

Toll free phone: 1-877-747-3038

E-mail: animalhealth@boah.state.in.us

Web page: www.IN.gov/boah/cattle/tb/index.html

Mail: Board of Animal Health, 805 Beachway Drive, Suite 50, Indianapolis, IN 46224

You can help Indiana's endangered wildlife.



Look for the eagle on the Indiana state income tax form and help protect our endangered species. The Endangered Wildlife Fund, Indiana's state income tax checkoff, is the main source of funding for Indiana's Endangered Wildlife Program.

Since the fund began in 1982 with the passage of state legislation, Indiana taxpayers have had the opportunity to donate all or a portion of their refund to support the Endangered Wildlife Program. Over the past ten years, the fund has generated a yearly average of \$400,000. Funding for Indiana's endangered wildlife comes from donations.



Show your support by checking the box on your Indiana state tax form.

FREE INFORMATION SERVICE



E-news about Indiana natural
resources and recreation

Find out where the fish are biting, how to spot rare wild birds, and how this year's deer season is shaping up – all through **Wild Bulletin**, a **FREE** e-mail information service offered by the DNR Division of Fish and Wildlife.

Wild Bulletin provides frequent **updates** about Indiana's natural resources and recreation through e-mail. Sign on to receive **information** about hunting and fishing season dates, regulation updates, wildlife and fisheries research status reports, **tips** on wildlife watching and reminders about **IMPORTANT DATES** for Hoosier outdoor enthusiasts. You'll also get updates about new information available on the DNR web page.

To subscribe to **Wild Bulletin** go to:
www.wildlife.IN.gov

Call
1-800-WETLAND
and talk
WATERFOWL



If you are an Indiana licensed hunter and you plan to hunt for migratory birds in the 2003-2004 season, you are required to participate in the Harvest Information Program, HIP. Call 1-800-WETLAND (938-5263) or online at www.wetlands.net before you hunt dove, duck, goose, woodcock, snipe, crow, coot, sora rail or gallinule for the first time this season. Simply answer a few easy questions and you will receive a validation number to write on your license. You must have the number in possession while hunting migratory birds.

It's free, and it's easy. You only need to make the call once each season, not each time you hunt. The information you provide will help wildlife managers gather information on the migratory bird harvest.

Harvest Information Program



Hoosier hunter Amanda Wuestefeld in an Ohio County tree stand.

HOW SAFE ARE YOU?

One of the most popular pieces of equipment used by deer hunters is a tree stand. Tree stands can be dangerous if they are used incorrectly or carelessly. In Indiana, the majority of hunting related injuries are the result of falls from tree stands, not gunshot accidents.

A recent survey of hunters using tree stands indicates that as many as one in three hunters will fall sometime during their hunting career. Injuries can range from bumps and bruises to broken bones or permanent, crippling paralysis. Some falls result in death.

Some hunters died while being suspended by safety belts due to their lack of knowledge or understanding of the proper use of fall-restraint devices. These well-intentioned hunters had their air supply cut off by a poorly designed or improperly used safety belt.

Falls from tree stands can be caused by a variety of factors, including a weakness in the stand's structure and incorrect installation. Hunters may fall asleep while on their stands. Tree

stands can also be a factor in other hunting accidents, including injury from accidental firing of a loaded firearm while the hunter is climbing to the stand. To help prevent these accidents, follow these safety precautions:

- Never carry equipment with you while climbing. Use a haul line to raise or lower your gear. Make sure guns are unloaded and broadheads are covered prior to raising or lowering firearms or bows with a haul line.
- Since most accidents occur when hunters are climbing up or down a tree, always use a climbing belt. Always use a safety belt or harness when hunting from elevated tree stands. Study manufacturer's recommendations before using any equipment. Never use a rope to replace a safety belt.
- Check permanent tree stands every year before hunting from them, and replace any worn or weak lumber.
- Read, understand and follow the factory recommended practices and procedures when installing commercial stands. Inspect portable stands for loose nuts and bolts each time they are used.
- Choose only healthy, living trees when using climbing devices. Rough-barked trees such as oak are best. Do not use a tree that is rotten or has dead limbs.

- Never put all your weight on a single branch. Keep at least one hand and one foot on a secure place when reaching for the next hold.
- Climb higher than the stand and step down onto it. Climbing up onto a stand can dislodge it.
- Wear boots with non-skid soles, because steps or platforms can be slippery in rain, sleet or snow.
- Tell a dependable person where you're hunting and when you plan on returning. Map your whereabouts and leave a note at camp, at home or in your car so that you can be found.
- Don't fall asleep. This is a common cause of accidents. If you get drowsy, slowly stand up and stretch until you feel alert.
- Never wear a ring in any climbing situation. Rings can catch on tree limbs and equipment.
- As a precautionary measure, remove all logs, upturned and cutoff saplings, rocks and other obstructions on the ground below the tree stand.
- Use updated equipment. When used properly, newer tree stand equipment is solid, safe and secure. Older models of safety belts offer some protection, but newer safety harnesses offer more protection.
- Carry a whistle to call for help and carry a first aid kit, flashlight and cellular telephone in a fanny pack.

Registration for Military/Refuge Deer Hunt Random Drawings

Deadline: August 22, 2003

Bonus military/refuge hunts are offered for firearms hunters and archers on the following areas. Bonus antlerless deer licenses cannot be used for military/refuge hunts. Note age restrictions.

- **Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge**
- **Camp Atterbury Army National Guard Training Site** (minimum age of 16 years old unless accompanied by a parent)
- **Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge**

Follow the directions carefully to complete the application card. The application deadline is Aug. 22, 2003.

Hunters can apply for the military/refuge hunts by completing the 2003 Military/Refuge Deer Hunt application card on page 23. This card must be completed properly and entirely to be eligible for the drawing. The application card contains blanks for first and second choices for a firearms military/refuge hunt and an archery military/refuge hunt. **If you wish to apply for both hunts, you must apply for both on one card.** You may submit only one application card.

Follow the instructions carefully. No exceptions will be made.

1. Print your last name, first name and middle initial in the spaces provided.
2. Print your complete mailing address

along with your city, state and zip code in the correct spaces.

3. Print your date of birth and driver's license number (unless you are without one) in the spaces provided.

4. Print your 2003 Deer Hunting License number, Lifetime Hunting License number or your Youth Hunting License number in the space provided. This number is required.

5. Under the license number, select the type of license by marking the box to the left of the types of licenses listed.

6. Fill in the code(s) for the hunt(s) in which you would like to participate. The codes for the firearms and archery hunts are listed below on this page. List a first and second choice.

7. Affix one First Class U.S. Postage Stamp to the postcard and mail to the Division of Fish and Wildlife's Bloomington office so it arrives no later than Aug. 22, 2003.

All Military/Refuge Deer Hunt Application cards are addressed and will be sent to the Division of Fish and Wildlife's Bloomington office regardless of which hunt you select.

The postcard application must be received at the Bloomington office by Aug. 22, 2003 to be eligible for the drawing. Late applications and/or incorrectly filled out application cards will be disqualified. If more than one

application card is received for the same hunter, all cards for that hunter will be disqualified. Photocopied applications and/or faxed applications will not be accepted.

Hunters will be selected through a random drawing. All applicants will be notified of the results by mail in early October. Information regarding the success in the drawing will be available after Oct. 1.

Special Notes

Big Oaks Youth Hunt

A youth hunt will be held at Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge. Contact the refuge at (812) 273-0783 for information. Visit the Big Oaks website at <http://midwest.fws.gov/bigoaks/> for information about all Big Oaks hunts.

Newport and Crane NSWC

There will be no public hunts on these areas during the 2003 season.

Muscatatuck

Both muzzleloader and archery hunts occur on the same day. The muzzleloader hunt must be placed as a firearms choice on the application. Handguns are not allowed. Hunters are encouraged to take a hunter education course before hunting on the refuge. Optional orientation programs are held at the refuge on dates to be announced. For more information call the refuge at (812) 522-4352.

Partner System

The drawing will not select partners. Every hunter selected through the drawing may choose any person as a partner to hunt with him/her on any Military/Refuge hunt. Selected hunters will have the option of hunting with or without a partner on all areas that do not specifically require a partner. As in the past, Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge requires that you bring a partner.

The hunter selected in the drawing will be provided with two forms for admission to the hunt (Notification I) and two license request certificates (Notification II). While each individual can only submit one hunt drawing application card, each individual can participate in multiple hunts if chosen as a partner in addition to being selected in the drawing. However, on any hunt day, an individual cannot be both a partner and a selected hunter or be a partner with more than one selected hunter.

There is no limit on how many times a hunter can participate as a partner. A hunter chosen as a partner by more than one person can use the partner license request certificate from each selected hunter to obtain multiple licenses. A partner can take one deer for each license provided, but may not exceed the daily bag limit for the hunt area.

Firearms choices

- F3 Camp Atterbury Army National Guard Training Site
- F4 Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge (partner required)
- M7 Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge, muzzleloading long gun only (muzzleloader license required)

Archery choices

- A4 Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge (partner required)
- A7 Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge (no crossbows, except with handicapped hunter permit)

If you have questions about the hunts, call the Deer Hotline: (812) 334-3795. This is not a toll-free call.